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NEWS RELEASE

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Unemployment Rates Show Slight Increase in half of Metro Areas

Job Growth Remains Sluggish

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	Sept. 2016	Sept. 2015	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.1%	4.6%	0.5
Carbondale-Marion	6.0%	5.7%	0.3
Champaign-Urbana	4.9%	4.8%	0.1
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.2%	5.1%	0.1
Danville	7.2%	6.9%	0.3
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.9%	5.1%	0.8
Decatur	6.7%	6.7%	-0-
Elgin	5.2%	5.3%	-0.1
Kankakee	6.2%	6.3%	-0.1
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.8%	4.8%	-0-
Peoria	6.4%	6.0%	0.4
Rockford	6.6%	6.7%	-0.1
Springfield	4.8%	4.9%	-0.1
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.7%	5.8%	-0.1
Illinois Statewide	5.4%	5.3%	0.1

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO—This month, seven of Illinois' metropolitan (metro) areas experienced increases in their over-the-year unemployment rate and eight of the metro areas had increases in nonfarm jobs, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

"The state is still experiencing not nearly enough growth," said IDES Director Jeff Mays. "While the unemployment rate is slightly increased from a year ago, it's not nearly enough growth as we continue to lose ground to other parts of the country."

Illinois businesses added jobs in eight metro areas, in which the largest increases were seen in: Rockford (+1.7 percent, +2,600), Champaign-Urbana (+1.5 percent, +1,700), Elgin (+1.4 percent, +3,700), and Lake-Kenosha (+1.4 percent, +5,800). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.1 percent or +40,300). Illinois businesses lost jobs in six metro areas including Carbondale-Marion (-3.4 percent, -2,000), Bloomington (-2.4 percent, -2,300), and the Quad Cities (-2.3 percent, -4,300). The industry sectors recording job growth in the

majority of metro areas were: Education and Health Services (10 of 14), and Other Services (nine of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares September 2016 with September 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.4 percent in September 2016 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in September 2016 and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – September 2016

Metropolitan Area	Sept. 2016*	Sept. 2015**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	93,700	96,000	-2,300
Carbondale-Marion MSA	56,500	58,500	-2,000
Champaign-Urbana MSA	112,100	110,400	1,700
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,715,200	3,674,900	40,300
Danville MSA	29,200	29,400	-200
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	180,000	184,300	-4,300
Decatur MSA	51,500	52,000	-500
Elgin Metro Division	262,000	258,300	3,700
Kankakee MSA	45,500	45,400	100
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	417,600	411,800	5,800
Peoria MSA	176,700	179,000	-2,300
Rockford MSA	155,900	153,300	2,600
Springfield MSA	115,600	114,500	1,100
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	239,100	237,300	1,800
Illinois Statewide	6,051,600	6,008,900	42,700

*Preliminary **Revised

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**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

	Sept. 2016	Sept. 2015	Over- the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA			
DeWitt County	5.5%	5.1%	0.4
McLean County	5.1%	4.6%	0.5
Peoria MSA			
Marshall County	6.4%	6.1%	0.3
Peoria County	6.8%	6.5%	0.3
Stark County	6.8%	6.0%	0.8
Tazewell County	6.2%	5.8%	0.4
Woodford County	5.2%	4.6%	0.6
Ottawa-Streator Area	6.1%	6.3%	-0.2
Bureau County	5.9%	5.9%	0.0
LaSalle County	6.2%	6.4%	-0.2
Putnam County	5.2%	5.4%	-0.2
Galesburg Area	6.0%	5.7%	0.3
Knox County	6.0%	5.7%	0.3
Warren County	5.3%	5.2%	0.1
Cities			
Bloomington City	5.5%	4.8%	0.7
Galesburg City	6.5%	6.1%	0.4
Normal City	4.8%	4.4%	0.4
Pekin City	7.0%	7.2%	-0.2
Peoria City	7.0%	6.8%	0.2
Counties			
Fulton County	7.0%	7.1%	-0.1
Henderson County	5.4%	5.7%	-0.3
Henry County	6.2%	5.6%	0.6
Livingston County	5.3%	5.2%	0.1
Logan County	5.2%	5.0%	0.2
Mason County	6.7%	6.5%	0.2

Pontiac Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.3 percent in September 2016 from 5.2 percent in September 2015. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+200). Manufacturing (+275) and Government (+50) had the largest increases while Retail Trade (-75), Educational and Health Services (-50), Leisure and Hospitality (-50), and Construction (-50) sectors had the largest declines from a year ago.

Note:

Monthly 2015 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2016, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

Central Illinois Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 8,500 positions in September and approximately 82 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board, which is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

Bloomington MSA: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.1 percent in September 2016 when compared to 4.6 percent in September 2015. There were an estimated 5,000 unemployed people in the labor force in September 2016.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment declined by (-2,300). Jobs gains were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (+300), Financial Activities (+100), Other Services (+100), and Educational and Health Services (+100). Declines were reported in Manufacturing (-1,200), Government (-600), Retail Trade (-500), Construction (-400), Professional and Business Services (-100), and Information (-100). All other major industry sectors were little changed compared to a year ago.

Peoria MSA: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.4 percent in September 2016 from 6.0 percent in September 2015. There were an estimated 11,800 unemployed people in the labor force in September 2016.

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by (-2,300) compared to September 2015. Job gains were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (+1,000), Retail Trade (+300), and Others Services (+100). Declines were reported in Manufacturing (-1,400), Professional and Business Services (-800), Educational and Health Services (-700), Government (-300), Construction (-300), Information (-100), and Financial Activities (-100).

Ottawa-Streator Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 6.1 percent in September 2016 from 6.3 percent in September 2015. There were an estimated 4,700 unemployed people in the labor force in September 2016. Nonfarm payrolls increased (+150) compared to a year ago. The largest gains occurred in Transportation and Warehousing (+100), Financial Activities (+75), Professional-Business Services (+50), Construction (+50), Leisure and Hospitality (+50), and Information (+50). The Manufacturing (-200) sector had the largest employment decline over the year.

Galesburg Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.0 percent in September 2016 from 5.7 percent in September 2015. Nonfarm payroll employment was (+300) higher than last year. Job Gains were led by Manufacturing (+100), Leisure and Hospitality (+100), Retail Trade (+50), Government (+50), and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (+50). All other industry sectors were relatively stable compared to a year ago.